

EPI Update for Friday, September 29, 2017

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Iowa reports first West Nile virus death of 2017**
- **CDC influenza vaccine safety campaign**
- **Reminder: CDC email/text subscription service**
- **Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update**
- **In the news: In San Diego, hundreds line up for hepatitis A vaccinations after deadly outbreak may have hit restaurants**
- **Infographic: You call the shots – make sure vaccination is safe**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Iowa reports first West Nile virus death of 2017

A middle-age adult (41 to 60 years of age) woman from southwest Iowa died from West Nile virus in September. This tragic outcome can serve as a reminder of the importance of mosquito prevention. West Nile virus remains a risk until the state's first hard frost.

The following steps can reduce the risk of exposure to mosquitoes:

- Use insect repellent with DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. Always read the repellent label and consult with a health care provider if you have questions when using these types of products for children. For example, oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under 3 years of age and DEET should not be used on children less than 2 months of age.
- Avoid outdoor activities at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, pants, shoes and socks outdoors whenever possible.
- Eliminate standing water around the home because that's where mosquitoes lay eggs. Empty water from buckets, cans, pool covers and pet water dishes. Change water in bird baths every three to four days.

In 2017, seven Iowans have been diagnosed with West Nile virus and three additional cases are under investigation. Last year, there were 37 cases confirmed, including one death.

For more information on West Nile virus, visit www.idph.iowa.gov/cade/disease-information/west-nile-virus.

CDC influenza vaccine safety campaign

As the 2017 influenza season begins, CDC is launching a campaign to educate and remind providers about proper influenza vaccine administration technique to help avoid shoulder injuries and other adverse events. Shoulder injuries like bursitis and tendinitis resulting from improper injection technique can easily be avoided. These errors are more likely to occur among adults than children.

Available materials include comprehensive vaccine administration information and a

short video on the correct technique for intramuscular injection. Healthcare providers can earn free continuing education by completing the new vaccine administration e-Learn.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/admin-protocols.html.

Reminder: CDC email/text subscription service

CDC offers daily or weekly updates sent directly via email or text message. Topics include MMWR, Flu, HIV, Zika and more. With a subscription profile, you receive information on items of interest to you automatically without having to return to the CDC website and check for changes.

For more information and to subscribe, visit www.cdc.gov/other/emailupdates/.

Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update

The new issue of the Iowa Acute Disease Monthly Update is available on our website. Visit idph.iowa.gov/CADE and scroll down to “Reports” or access the report directly with the following

link: idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/79/Reports/Misc/Monthly%20Report/IADMU%20September%202017.pdf.

In the news: In San Diego, hundreds line up for hepatitis A vaccinations after deadly outbreak may have hit restaurants

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-san-diego-hepatitis-20170918-story.html>

Infographic: You call the shots – make sure vaccination is safe

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/infographics/call-the-shots.html

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

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